



Kilmacolm Nursery Class
February Newsletter
2020

The more that child's play is truly free and unstructured, the greater the benefits can be.

Pasi Sahlberg (2019)

New Group Structure

As a result of the increased hours we are now offering, we have had to create a new group structure. Below is a list of keyworkers and group colours, any questions please ask.

Rose – Red Group
Laura – Green Group
Yvonne – Yellow Group
Lauren – Blue Group
Jessie – Orange Group
Rebecca – Purple Group
Gaynor – Pink Group

New Session Times – Increased Hours

With most children now taking up the option of the increased hours, can we please ask that you respect the new session times.

Model 1 – 6 hours from time of drop off (Between 8:30am and 4:30pm)

Models 2 and 3 – 8am earliest drop of and 6pm latest pick up.

Model 4 – 8am earliest drop of and 1pm latest pick up.

Model 5 – 1pm earliest drop of and 5:50pm latest pick up.

These hours are an entitlement, not a requirement, so you can choose to take all or part of the hours available to you.

Absences

If your child is unwell or unable to attend nursery please can you phone and let us know 01475 715831.

Outdoor Play – Every Day

Outdoor play, in all weathers, has huge benefits to children's learning and development. At Kilmacolm Nursery, your children will be given the opportunity to be outdoors every day.

Children love being outdoors, can you please ensure that children are dressed appropriately for the weather when coming to nursery. We do have a supply of waterproofs which are worn over the children's own clothes. These can sometimes not be enough depending on the weather, and the availability of mud!

It would also be good if you could...

- Provide a change of clothes and a pair of wellies which can be left at your child's peg.
- Mark all belongings with your child's name to avoid any mix ups.
- Avoid wearing good clothes to nursery as children are encouraged to participate in messy play.

New Children

A warm welcome to Luca, Charlie D, Calvin, Zara, Kyle, Lucas, Charlie J, Blair, Gabriella, Fergus, Beau, Seth and Emma.

We are delighted to welcome you and your parents/relatives into the Kilmacolm Nursery family!

Staff have been busy compiling settling in reports, some of these have already been shared with parents/children. If not, your child's keyworker will be in touch to arrange a short meeting.

New Coat Pegs

All children have been allocated a new coat peg with the changes to the group structures. They will also have a picture beside their name. These will have the same initial sound and will help develop children's literacy skills.

Stay and Play Sessions

We love having parents and family members into nursery to see what we do and how the children learn through play. We offer Stay and Play sessions **EVERY DAY**. Please add your name to the Stay and Play sheet in the cloakroom if you would like to join us. You can stay for as little, or as long as you like. Be prepared to get hands on, and possibly a little messy!

School App

Kilmacolm Primary School has an app that you can download from the Apple or Google Play stores, search for 'PSA'.

This will keep you up to date with any information from the School or Nursery.

Username - KPS

Password - 2019

Twitter

Follow us on Twitter to see pictures and examples of the rich learning experiences and environments on offer to the children.

KPSNURSERYCLASS

@kpsnurseryclass

Nut Free Nursery

Please remember that in supporting our children with Nut Allergies we are completely nut free throughout the nursery and school. Please do not send in any items which may contain nuts in packed lunches as snacks. We do have a number of children with nut allergies and it is imperative that they do not come into contact with them in any way.

Grapes in Lunch Boxes

If supplying grapes in pack lunches please make sure they are cut lengthwise to help prevent choking.

Students

We have a number of students who are on placement from West College Scotland with us at the moment:

Elaine Pollock Bespoke HNC – Monday

Ann Ward HNC - Tuesday & Wednesday

Kirsty Higgins HNC - Wednesday PM

Samantha Gaffney - NC Thursday & Friday

Alisha Gallacher – NC Thursday & Friday

Children's Current Learning

Child Led

At Kilmacolm Nursery, children take responsibility for driving forward their own learning through self-directed play, based on their individual interests. This play takes place in rich, stimulating, indoor and outdoor environments that are designed to promote curiosity, creativity, independent thinking and problem solving.

Staff skilfully facilitate children's learning through the use of observations and sensitive interactions. By understanding exactly where children are within their development, staff can then provide appropriate support and opportunities, allowing them to reach the next stage in their development. By using this approach, we are allowing children to progress at their own individual pace.

Adult Led/initiated

Children take part in a short daily group time, the focus of this group time is carefully planned by staff, ensuring it is accessible to all children. Group times cover a variety of curricular areas such as Literacy, Numeracy, Mathematics and Health and Wellbeing. Children are also given the opportunity to participate in a wide range of adult/child initiated experiences such as Yoga, Bookbug and trips to Duchal Woods.

If you have any questions about what effective learning looks like at Kilmacolm Nursery, please have a chat with a member of staff.

Children's Rights

The school and nursery are currently working towards the UNICEF Gold Rights Respecting award.

Within nursery the children have been learning about the right to a name (article 7), the right to privacy (article 16) and the right to be listened to (article 12).

Fund Money

We have a voluntary contribution of £2 per week.

This helps pay for a variety of resources to support children's learning, such as ingredients for baking. It also help to pay for other events throughout the year such as birthdays and Christmas.

Transitions

The nursery and school have a wonderful relationship and we have begun our transition programme to support children who will be going to school in August.

More information on this will follow.

Kilmacolm Book Fairies

The stock in our basket in the cloakroom is running low. If you have any books at home belonging to the Kilmacolm Book Fairies, can you please return them when you are finished with them.

Staff Training – Woodwork

At Kilmacolm Nursery, encouraging children to participate in practical, real life experiences is an important aspect of our approach. This includes experiences such as weaving, exploring nature, building, using clay and using fire.

On Saturday 29th February, all staff will receive training from Pete Moorhouse on woodwork. This will allow staff to provide children with further opportunities to develop a variety of skills such as, creative thinking, maths, scientific investigation, physical development and coordination, developing language and vocabulary, and much more.

Developing Children’s Language

Most of the language work we do with the children is done through rich, meaningful conversations. These conversations help them to become articulate and broaden their vocabulary.

Staff also spend time singing with the children and sharing stories. Acquiring speech and language skills in this way, through conversation, songs and stories supports the eventual process of learning to read and write.

To learn a thing in life and through doing is much more developing, cultivating, and strengthening than to learn it merely through the verbal communication of ideas.

Friedrich Froebel

Staff Training – Block Play

To support your children in their learning, almost all staff have attended, or will be attending training on block play.

We have a large block play area within the playroom which is well used by the children. We would encourage you to join us for a stay and play session where you can find out more about the wonder of block play! Alternatively, just ask any member of staff.



Emergency Details

If any of your personal details change, such as address, or contact numbers, can you please let us know immediately.

Increased Hours Entitlement

Model 1 – Term time only, no entitlement during school holidays.
Models 2,3,4 and 5 – 48 Week entitlement, please speak to staff for more info.

